

1 prevent health problems. We are the electronic
2 version of our oral traditions.

3 Our land base is our home. Our
4 culture is our life. Securing our sovereign
5 rights in modern times means we must practice
6 cross cultural understandings. Radio does this
7 well. We share ideas. We share thoughts. We
8 open the discussion beyond ourselves. My
9 appearance here today is yet another extension of
10 this practice.

11 A reality of Native communities is
12 that we are the last seated on -- at the media
13 discussion tables, such as I am here on the last
14 session of this. Seriously.

15 (Applause.)

16 MR. OROZCO: Being an owner of a media
17 operation is a new role for some of us and an
18 experience many others have yet to have. The
19 Hoopa Valley community operates as any other
20 town. The residents depend on our tribal
21 government to provide leadership, law
22 enforcement, health care, and road maintenance.

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1 However, our government must also
2 remain vigil to protect our sovereign rights. In
3 the realm of media ownership we must voice our
4 need to secure our right to own and operate our
5 media in order to maintain our sense of identity
6 and security. Allowing more media consolidation
7 increases the assault of western civilized
8 thinking and minimizes the essence of indigenous
9 values.

10 (Applause.)

11 MR. OROZCO: KIDE is a member of the
12 National Public Media Network. Native Public
13 Media is the only national organization dedicated
14 to expanding and strengthening the voice of
15 Native America. As a veteran of the Native
16 American Radio Network we support the positions
17 advanced by NPM. We also, we also support their
18 efforts to increase Native Americans in
19 accessing, owning, and controlling media outlets.

20 To my knowledge native ownership of
21 commercial licenses is less than one percent of
22 the existing licenses for both radio and TV.

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1 Spectrum of ownership remains a high
2 priority for Tribes. Broadcast ownership among
3 Native Americans is less than .07 percent. In a
4 recent NCE window we know of at least 21 Tribes
5 and Native organizations that applied for a full
6 power non-commercial FM radio licenses. This is
7 a good start; however, there are 560 federally
8 recognized Tribes in this country.

9 We want to see that all Native Nations
10 become eligible for licenses when they are ready
11 without having to wait for an NCE or LPFM windows
12 to open.

13 Because of the land base of many
14 tribes, we feel that both full power and low
15 power licenses must be available to tribes as
16 there is no one size license fits all.

17 I must point out again that there is
18 only one Native owned commercial television
19 station. Native Public Media believes that the
20 FCC must do more to promote diversity of
21 ownership in commercial and non-commercial
22 broadcasting.

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1 We would like the FCC to ensure that
2 the unique needs of Native Nations are considered
3 in any studies performed by the FCC as part of
4 this proceedings and consider performing a
5 targeted study of Native Nation broadcasting
6 issues.

7 We want to acknowledge and appreciate
8 Shana Barehand and the Office of
9 Intergovernmental Affairs and their efforts.

10 And we would like the FCC to create an
11 Indian desk that will generate proposals to
12 promote broadcasting on Native lands; propose
13 ways for the Commission to set aside spectrum to
14 meet the needs of Native Nations; to help Native
15 Nations hold mainstream broadcasters accountable;
16 study Native station ownership; identify ways
17 that the transition to digital technology can
18 serve communities in securing new media
19 opportunities; expand education and outreach
20 regarding regulatory requirements through
21 publications and seminars during the Indian
22 Telecommunications Initiatives, also known as the

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1 ITI events.

2 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you, Mr.
3 Orozco.

4 (Applause.)

5 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you,
6 panelists, for your participation this evening.

7 Let us continue on the with the public
8 comments. Would the following people, starting
9 with No. 41, step forward: Ellen King, Connie
10 Dawson, Nehin Ngwen, David Ortiz, Bill Bachmann,
11 Patricia Shepherd-Barnes, Sami Kuvo, Amanda
12 Cumbow, Ruth Kovacs, and Nancy Van-Tyne.

13 We'll let everything settle one
14 moment, and we'll begin with Ellen in just one
15 moment.

16 I'll repeat those names just one more
17 time as we transition. Quickly, Ellen King,
18 Connie Dawson, Nehin Ngwen, David Ortiz, Bill
19 Bachmann, Patricia Shepherd-Barnes, Sami Kuvo,
20 Amanda Cumbow, Ruth Kovacs, and Nancy Van-Tyne.
21 Let's begin with Ellen King.

22 MS. KING: For the record my name is

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1 Ellen King, and I address this concept: Media
2 consolidation equals media monopoly; media
3 monopoly equals biased media; biased media equals
4 censorship.

5 (Applause.)

6 MS. KING: We are a government of, by,
7 and for the people. We have the freedom of
8 speech, and we have the freedom of the press.
9 That does not -- The freedom of the press does
10 not mean that the people cannot utilize the
11 press. It means it's free for them also.

12 If you don't understand what I'm
13 trying to get at here, when cable first came
14 out, it was called the paid station, no ads. You
15 paid to watch TV without ads. But there were
16 still regular free network stations.

17 Well, it's come a long way. Now we
18 still pay for cable television, but the prices
19 has gone up, and what happens? There is more
20 ads; about equal times ads to equal programming.

21 Also there is a gag order these days
22 now. When cable TV first came out it was required

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1 that he provide for local access programming.
2 It's referred to as the PEG. Well, in many
3 places the education and the government still
4 exist, but all over this nation the public
5 community access stations are going down with no
6 support from the cable companies that were
7 supposed provide it. This is --

8 AUDIENCE: -- disgraceful.

9 MS. KING: This is a gag order put on
10 the people by cable companies.

11 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you, Ms.
12 King.

13 MS. KING: I would also like to
14 present to this group a copy of the Constitution
15 of the United States.

16 (Applause.)

17 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Connie Dawson. Is
18 Connie Dawson here? Nehin Ngwen. David Ortiz.
19 David?

20 MR. ORTIZ: Hi.

21 MODERATOR SIGALOS: You have two
22 minutes.

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1 MR. ORTIZ: Thank you.

2 The problems of democracy has always
3 been a tension to between what is fair and what
4 is efficient. I hope that when we think about
5 what's going to happen with a media consolidation
6 that we don't sacrifice our freedoms for
7 corporate efficiency.

8 We are some of the most entertained
9 people on the planet, but we don't know a lot
10 about what's going on in the world because of the
11 way corporate media is structured.

12 (Applause.)

13 MR. ORTIZ: We as a country can do
14 better. We deserve better.

15 Here in the Pacific Northwest many of
16 us are forced to watch Canadian television to
17 figure out what's happening in our own country.
18 We can do better. We deserve better.

19 The question that's not being asked is
20 what happens in the small local newspapers here
21 in the Seattle area that benefit our communities
22 if the corporate pressure begins to squeeze them?

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1 We have some of the finest newspapers
2 in the country: Colors Northwest, the
3 International Examiner, Seattle Day News,
4 Northwest Asian Weekly, and East of Safe, and
5 some of the best publications in this country.
6 We're not addressing what's going to happen to
7 them as corporate media gets bigger and bigger
8 and bigger. What happens when these newspapers
9 get smaller and smaller and smaller because of
10 what's happening to the ad revenue and the
11 dollars involved with that.

12 And final point real quickly is what
13 happens when we start struggling with these
14 oligopolies? What happens when Disney owns ABC?
15 What happens when General Electric owns a
16 network? Who's held accountable? When is enough
17 enough?

18 (Applause.)

19 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you, Mr.
20 Otriz.

21 Bill Bachmann. Patricia Shepherd-
22 Barnes.

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1 Are you Bill Bachmann? Bill, you have
2 two minutes.

3 MR. BACHMANN: Thank you.

4 I'm Bill Bachmann, and I'm American
5 citizen. That's why I'm here. I can't help but
6 notice that the panel up here consists of three
7 Bush Republicans and two Democrats, and it seems
8 to me that this rush to change the rules could
9 possibly allow this or a further administration
10 to consolidate our -- with his or her benefactors
11 and quash opposition to their programs or
12 policies.

13 Running this hearing with five days'
14 notice and then trying to jam media consolidation
15 through by mid-December to me is damning evidence
16 by the total abuse of the process itself that
17 you're up to some kind of no good.

18 (Applause.)

19 MR. BACHMANN: If this is a legitimate
20 issue, then it deserves and demands a legitimate
21 public process to determine the outcome. There's
22 no public benefit to media consolidation.

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1 The only benefits which accrue are to
2 provide more money to those who already have big
3 money, more power to those who are already in
4 power, and the provide the ability to emphasize a
5 particular point of view to the exclusion of
6 other points of view.

7 It provides the ability to impose a
8 virtual monopoly over what stories are covered,
9 what issues are talked about and the singular
10 point of view favored by the owner on those
11 issues.

12 Local coverage suffers most, and I
13 think that's been well covered by the other
14 speakers.

15 Allowing those with big money and big
16 power to virtually control our political
17 discourse severely undermines the well informed
18 electorate required to run a successful
19 democracy, and that's a heck of a lot more
20 important than a bump in profits for a handful of
21 wealthy corporations.

22 (Applause.)

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1 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you, Mr.
2 Bachmann.

3 MR. BACHMANN: You ought to be ashamed
4 of yourselves for not respecting the democracy
5 you live in.

6 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Patricia Shepherd-
7 Barnes. Patricia, you have two minutes.

8 MS. SHEPHERD-BARNES: I am here
9 representing the nonprofit community,
10 particularly the healthcare community. By
11 profession, I am currently the president of the
12 National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Greater
13 Washington Chapter.

14 I'm here to echo the sentiments of
15 many people earlier tonight about the community
16 we live in in Seattle and about the state of
17 Washington, about the care we take of our people,
18 and the genuine importance of the broadcast media
19 for all of us, whether it's arts, healthcare,
20 education, to get the word out about awareness,
21 about why the organization exists, and certainly
22 to help with our fundraising efforts.

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1 The broadcast media in this community
2 has a very strong culture to give back to the
3 community. Most of, if not all of the news
4 announcers and other key people on the local
5 media serve on community boards. Ray Heacox, who
6 was on the first panel, is the incoming chair of
7 the national MS Society board. Most of these
8 people that were up here have been, have been or
9 are currently serving on boards.

10 I just want to express our strong
11 sentiments for the importance of the broadcast
12 media, the diversity of the broadcast media, and
13 the ability for all of us in nonprofits to
14 continue to carry out our mission.

15 Thank you.

16 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you, Ms.
17 Shepherd-Barnes.

18 Okay. The names I'd like to call for
19 the far microphone now before I get to Sami who's
20 next -- Judy Davis, Jim Bowman, Sharon O'Dell,
21 Jamen Shively, Adrienne Weller, Ibeth Berber,
22 Marcos Patron, Eric Mora, and Ross Lampert. Ross

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1 is No. 59.

2 The next speaker at the mic is Sami
3 Kuvo. Are you Sami?

4 MS. KUVU: Yes.

5 MODERATOR SIGALOS: And she's No. 47.

6 Sami, you have two minutes.

7 MS. KUVU: Hi, my name is Sami Kuvo,
8 and I'm a senior at Ballard High School.

9 Commissioners, I am not going to tell
10 you that you shouldn't further consolidate media
11 ownership. I'm going to tell you that you cannot
12 further consolidate media ownership because the
13 future wellbeing of the entire nation is at
14 stake. I know it sounds cliché, but it's really
15 true that we, the youth, are the future of the
16 world.

17 I experienced first handedly the God-
18 like influence the current media has on young
19 people of the nation. I grew up watching my
20 older sister, my best friend, even my brother,
21 buy eye -- blue colored eye contacts, bleach
22 their hair blond, starve themselves, and OD on

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1 protein shakes all to struggle for unattainable,
2 unrealistic standard of the beauty that's shown
3 everywhere.

4 (Applause.)

5 MS. KUVU: Now, I never even attempted
6 these things, not because I was secure, but
7 because I didn't even think that I had the
8 potential to be as beautiful as the people that I
9 had idolized.

10 And it's not just me or my family.
11 It's everybody. It's just so sad to see all the
12 bright, potential teens all around me so insecure
13 and self-loathing because the media all around us
14 is a constant reminder of what we apparently
15 should be like. Even the media's lame attempts
16 to create real or all natural figures are a far
17 cry from what truly real people are like.

18 This is all because the media is owned
19 by just a few people with similar values and
20 interests and there just isn't enough diverse
21 ownership of the media to provide genuine and
22 diverse figures to the world.

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1 Not only did I give up on ever
2 thinking that I could be beautiful, but I gave up
3 on my dreams of becoming a successful filmmaker
4 because I was a non-white female. The current
5 film industry makes it nearly impossible for
6 someone like me to become even remotely
7 successful.

8 I am just like the majority of youth
9 in America. If I can't be beautiful and if I
10 can't follow my dreams, what can I be? If that's
11 insecure, self-loathing, shallow, and immoral,
12 deal with it. Is that who you want to rule the
13 future world. If not, stop further consolidation
14 of media ownership.

15 (Applause.)

16 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Amanda Cumbow.

17 MS. CUMBOW: My name is Amanda Cumbow.
18 I grew up here in Seattle, and I'm the Northwest
19 Regional Secretary for the Hip-Hop Congress and
20 I'm also a supporter of the 206 Zulu Nation. I
21 see some of my brothers and sisters from the Zulu
22 Nation here in the room.

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1 The Universal Zulu Nation was created
2 at the foundation of hip-hop as an alternative to
3 gang life which was proliferating at that time in
4 New York City. I have not seen one of my
5 brothers or sisters in the Zulu Nation on
6 mainstream television, radio or in the newspaper.

7 Recently -- I don't know if you all
8 are fathers, but if you are, just try to picture
9 for a second your daughter or your son when they
10 were two years old. Well, I -- My daughter at
11 two years old came home singing "laughy taffy,
12 shake that laughy taffy, shake that laughy
13 taffy." That refers to a part of the female
14 genitalia that I was not prepared to explain to
15 her at that age. And that's what she hears on
16 mainstream radio. And that's a brand of hip-hop
17 that I am not a part of and I did not grow up
18 with.

19 I grew up with a local AM station that
20 you could barely get in on the dial called KKFX,
21 K Fox, and it was bought out in the early
22 nineties by Radio Disney.

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1 And we have Zulu Radio. We also I
2 have Zulu TV, which is Hip-Hop 101. You can only
3 listen to these stations and see these stations
4 at various parts of the day, very specific parts
5 of the day or night.

6 I don't see a lot of youth here, and
7 I don't see a lot of the hip-hop community here.
8 That's because this wasn't broadcast on any Clear
9 Channel stations.

10 I am against the commodification of
11 the media because they set the standard of what's
12 cool, what's hip, just like the young girl was
13 saying, for our youth. I don't want that for my
14 daughter. I don't want that to be what's hip.
15 That these kids are too busy shaking their
16 "laughy taffy" to care about politics and it's
17 because of hip-hop that I even care about
18 politics.

19 (Applause.)

20 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

21 Ruth Kovacs. Ruth Kovacs. Nancy Van-
22 Tyne. Judy Davis. Jim Bowman.

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1 Jim, you have two minutes.

2 MR. BOWMAN: I'm Jim Bowman. I'm from
3 Kirkland, Washington. And I would like to thank
4 the FCC and, Chairman Martin, you in particular
5 for coming to Seattle on such short notice.

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. BOWMAN: A hundred years ago I was
8 a political science major at UC Berkley, and I'm
9 really glad to see that the free speech movement
10 is alive and well in Seattle.

11 (Applause.)

12 MR. BOWMAN: Al Gore in his new book,
13 "The Assault on Reason," writes that, "The large
14 conglomerates are apparently sometimes tempted to
15 bend their news programming choices to support
16 the achievement of the commercial objectives.
17 The new divisions -- the news divisions, which
18 used to be seen as serving a public interest and
19 were subsidized by the rest of the network, are
20 now seen as profit centers designed to generate
21 revenue and sometimes to advance the larger
22 agenda of the corporation that owns them."

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1 General Electic, does that sound
2 familiar? They have fewer reporters, fewer
3 stories, smaller budgets, less travel, fewer
4 bureaus, less independent judgment, more
5 vulnerability to influence by management, and
6 more dependence on government sources and canned
7 public relations handouts.

8 He goes on to say, "The movie network
9 winner of the best screen play author in 1976 was
10 presented as a farce, but was actually a
11 prophetic warning of transforming news, which
12 plays such an important role in our democracy,
13 into profit-driven entertainment programming.

14 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you, Mr.
15 Bowman.

16 (Applause.)

17 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Sharon O'Dell.
18 Sharon O'Dell. Jamen Shively.

19 MR. SHIVELY: Hello. I'm Jamen
20 Shively. I'm partner manager for Microsoft Online
21 advertising syndication business and also an
22 internet entrepreneur.

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1 Big media has not fulfilled its
2 crucial democratic function of challenging and
3 debating the decisions, actions, and statements
4 of the ruling powers in the federal government.

5 (Applause.)

6 MR. SHIVELY: Why? And this is one
7 key part of it. There are other answers, but one
8 key part is because of big media's size. The
9 sheer size, profitability, and organizational
10 dynamics of the huge enterprises which constitute
11 big media, including my own employer, make them
12 particularly prone to constant manipulation and
13 filtering through ownership, big budget
14 advertising, and other mechanisms, especially by
15 certain key industries, most notably the oil
16 industry and the military industrial complex.

17 Just take a look at what big media has
18 done, or rather not done, relative to the
19 irrefutable facts which have resulted in the
20 deaths of over one million innocent Iraqi
21 civilians since 2002.

22 (Applause.)

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1 MR. SHIVELY: Fact No. 1. George W.
2 Bush took office in 2001 after losing both the
3 electoral vote and the popular vote.

4 Fact No. 2. The decision to invade
5 and occupy Iraq was made based on blatant lies
6 put forth by the President, Vice President
7 Cheney, Secretary of State, and other leaders.

8 Fact No. 3. As a direct result of the
9 U.S. invasion and occupation of Iraq, over a
10 million innocent Iraqi civilians have been
11 killed.

12 Fact No. 4. Despite these blatant
13 crimes and an abundance of evidence, there is no
14 discussion of impeachment of Bush in Congress.

15 Big media reports none of these facts,
16 much less delves into their analysis. To the
17 contrary, they portray George W. Bush as moral,
18 conscientious, caring, human, much as the Germans
19 portrayed Hitler during World War II.

20 (Applause.)

21 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Adrienne Weller.

22 MS. WELLER: Can somebody help me with

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1 this? I'm not normal size.

2 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Adrienne, you have
3 two minutes.

4 MS. WELLER: I'm Adrienne Weller, and
5 I'm speaking for the Freedom Socialist Newspaper.
6 We are based here in Seattle, and we are sold
7 nationally and internationally.

8 The airwaves belong to the people, and
9 the FCC's job is protect our right to coverage
10 about the issues that affect our lives, our jobs,
11 our Constitutional freedom, and our world. Yet
12 your proposals decrease or degrade these rights.
13 You appear to be as Malcolm X said, "The wolves
14 guarding the hen house."

15 It is a cause of consternation when
16 the Daily Show and the Colbert Report are edgier
17 and more honest than the network evening news.
18 And media monopolies will certainly never produce
19 a show called Meet the Left Press or a drama
20 about a young Latina and her multiracial
21 community facing up against the Minutemen.

22 Dealing with the Minutemen and the

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1 coverage of the mainstream media, they are
2 regularly -- they regularly whitewash the actions
3 of these right wing vigilantes. And it's the
4 alternative and the radical media who report the
5 violence against immigrants and their incipient
6 fascist views. Communities need this knowledge
7 and support to defend themselves.

8 Were it not for the African American
9 independent media exposing the Gena 6 outrage, it
10 never would have become national news. And who
11 else but the left media analyzes the capitalist
12 cause of war, not even -- not to add the very
13 process we are protesting.

14 We need locally owned papers by and
15 for homeless people, women, ethnic, racial,
16 immigrant communities.

17 Union news is distorted. There has
18 not been a labor section for years in the Seattle
19 PI or the Times.

20 (Applause.)

21 MS. WELLER: We also need independent
22 alternative media to permit electoral radical

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1 grassroots candidates to thrive. Only
2 millionaires can run now because it cost millions
3 to get media coverage.

4 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you, Ms.
5 Weller.

6 (Applause.)

7 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Ibeth Berber.
8 Marcos Patron.

9 I'd like to call now the numbers 60
10 through 69 who can speak at this microphone after
11 the next two speakers, and that will be starting
12 with No. 60 Jeanne Carpenter, Joan Verton, Scott
13 Michaels, Lila Kitoeff, Blair Anundson, David
14 Griffith, Todd Boyle, Greg Mack, Mike Bowersox,
15 Adam Assenberg.

16 Now, the next speaker at this
17 microphone are you Marcos Patron? Eric Mora.
18 Ross Lampert. In that case, Jeanne Carpenter at
19 this microphone. Joan Verton. Scott Michaels.

20 Scott, you have two minutes.

21 MR. MICHAELS: Thank you.

22 Good evening and thank you for taking

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